

## **CLAIMS**

We claim:

1. A panel comprising:

fibers;

starch; and

a latex, wherein the latex comprises from about 0.01% to 0.97% of the panel on a dry weight percent basis.

2. The panel of claim 1, wherein the latex further comprises a functional group selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid, methylol, hydroxyl, urethane, amide, urea and combinations thereof.

3. The panel of claim 2, wherein carboxylic acid comprises from about 0.02% to about 7% by weight of the latex.

4. The panel of claim 1, wherein the latex comprises from about 0.01% to about 0.5% of the panel on a dry weight percent basis.

5. A coated panel comprising:

fibers;

starch;

a latex, wherein the latex comprises from about 0.01% to 0.97% of the panel on a dry weight percent basis; and

a coating including a chelating agent applied to a facing side of the panel.

6. The panel of claim 5, wherein the coating further comprises a binder and a filler.
7. The panel of claim 5, wherein the latex further comprises a functional group selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid, methyol, hydroxyl, urethane, amide, urea and combinations thereof.
8. The panel of claim 7, wherein carboxylic acid comprises from about 0.02% to about 7% by weight of the latex.
9. The panel of claim 5, wherein the latex comprises from about 0.01% to about 0.5% of the panel on a dry weight percent basis.